

# Briefly Told

The tree on which Daniel Webster hung his scythe after deciding to go to Dartmouth College has been given a place in the Hall of Fame for trees with a history.

Sixty per cent of the world's output of copper is controlled by the United States.

Government figures show a surplus of more than one million women in England whose only hope of marriage depends on their migrating to other countries.

The wild burro of the Grand Canyon of the Colorado has been declared a pest by the United States Government. The burros have destroyed the trails and denuded the pastures of grass so that native wild game, such as antelope, has been forced out.

Residents of Tahiti express indignation because motion pictures, magazines and Sunday supplement pages depict the native Tahiti women as wearing few clothes. Missionaries changed the style of native dress long before the present generation was born. The average native woman is dressed in a mother Hubbard.

A famous French statistician reported to the French Parliament that 8,501,437 men died in the war between August 2, 1914, and November 11, 1918.

It is estimated that 5,000,000 of the better class of Germans are planning to depart for Brazil, Argentina, Mexico and the United States.

If the government will remove the tax on the poorer grades of tobacco it will permit at least 25 per cent of the 1920 crop to be manufactured into fertilizer.

Rats of Nolan County, Texas, are eating the growing grain and the bark from trees six feet from the ground.

Six factories of Missouri manufacture corn-cob pipes for use in the United States and abroad. Last year the sales ran close to one million dollars.

German scientists have discovered that the roots of the ordinary bullrush contain as high as 30 per cent of cane sugar. Secondary processes yield alcohol and a nutritive cattle food.

The Douglas fir of Central British Columbia exudes a liquid at the tips of the leaves which when dry appears in white masses of sugar. The Indians of this region never fail to lay in a supply for the winter months.

Of our virgin forests one-sixth remains.

Natives of the Philippine Islands make substantial bridges of bamboo.

The Indiana house of representatives voted recently to bar all lobbyists from inside the railing of the hall of the house between the hours of ten in the morning and the time of afternoon adjournment.

Foreign claims filed with the Mexican Government for losses suffered during the revolution total \$111,000,000. Claims were presented by five thousand individuals.

Rhodesia is doing its bit toward the returned soldiers and sailors. It has set aside five hundred thousand acres which is allotted free of charge to approved settlers from overseas.

Eighty per cent of the motion picture play-houses of this country still remain small structures seating but three or four hundred.

On the ground that it is an "affectation and a reminder of the monarchical days" the wearing of monocles by officials or members of the Berlin security police is forbidden in an order issued recently.

A Negro state bank, the first of its kind in the state, was recently opened in Chicago. The bank is operated for and by Negroes and has a capital and surplus of \$125,000.

The farmers of America, through the American Farm Bureau Federation, declare they are willing to furnish 25,000,000 bushels of corn to the starving of China and Europe if the railroads, milling and corn products interests and others will transport it to the famine victims.

Three hundred million gallons of gasoline evaporate annually between the wells and the refineries. This amount is only about half the total evaporation loss and of this total at least half is preventable.

The people of the United States spend \$200,000,000 annually on tobacco.

The Louisville & Nashville Railroad will install wireless outfits to transact railroad business. Train dispatches will not be handled by wireless.

The American cotton crop for 1920 was 12,987,000 bales.

There are 115,000 tubercular children in Vienna, of which 16,000 are in urgent need of surgical treatment.

More than 2,000,000 acres in this country were planted with peanuts during 1920.

A seed potato cutter has been invented which cuts two potatoes at a time into four pieces each.

Insects annually kill standing trees valued at \$70,000,000.

The natives of Guam use the pounded fruit pulp of a native tree to stupefy fish which they use for food. The fruit pulp is inclosed in a bag and sunk in the deep holes of the reefs and the intoxicated fish soon appear on the surface where the natives scoop them into their boats.

The present population of Brazil is one-fourth that of the United States.

The United States produces more copper than all the other nations combined and more iron than any other nation in the world.

Sanitary engineers of twelve southern states use the top minnow, a wee fish, to aid in controlling malaria and to destroy mosquitoes. These fish swim near the surface and devour thousands of the mosquito larvae.

If experiments of the Navy Department prove successful, naval airplanes, instead of "taking off" from the decks of ships at sea, will be hurled from catapults. Plans are also under way to make collapsible planes.

According to the figures of the Reclamation Service the amount of lumber required to make boxes for Washington's 1919 crop of apples was sufficient in quantity to build 9,660 country houses, each capable of sheltering a family of five persons.

Either of the two American fleets, the Atlantic or the Pacific, is far greater than the famous fleet of the United States which sailed around the world in 1907-1908.

A naturalist and tree surgeon of Cambridge, to observe to the best advantage the intimate family life of his feathered friends, the birds, has slung his hammock high in the tops of the tallest trees where he sleeps each night during the warm weather. Another advantage is that he is never bothered with mosquitoes at that altitude.

The permanent snow fields of Alaska are less than one per cent of Alaska's total area, and only cluster around the crest lines of the highest mountains.

It has been reported by Arctic explorers that Polar bears have been seen, hale and hearty, swimming in the open ocean all the way from forty to eighty miles from any land or other landing spot.

Tokio is planning to have a floating crematory which consists of two specially constructed vessels with facilities for cremating 30 bodies at a time. After funeral services have been held on board the boats will leave for a point seven miles off the bay for cremation.

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